

JAN 9 1976

**WORLD HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION**



**ORGANISATION MONDIALE  
DE LA SANTÉ**

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In reply please refer to: RPD  
Prière de rappeler la référence:

29 December 1975

Dear Josh,

Many thanks for the various items of correspondence you have been sending me. I am sending your letters of 16 December, addressed to Winfield and Spitzka, to the appropriate individuals here in WHO (Environmental Health/Community Water Supply and Sanitation, and Virus Diseases). Also, I shall look forward to a discussion with Ambassador Martin when he is in Geneva.

With respect to our further activities in DNA recombinants, it has been agreed here that Dr Bügel will be charged with being the focal point on laboratory safety procedures. EMBO is having its Special Committee (including Sydney Brenner) meet on 17 January. Of all the various organizations, apart from NIH, which are getting into the act, (ICRO, ICSU), EMBO will probably be the most useful. I spoke to John Tooze of EMBO after you were here, and he welcomed the idea of WHO acting as a transmitter of technical details to non-member states of EMBO, along the lines of what I have suggested to Stetten.

You will recall that there is an ACMR sub-committee on the subject which should make at least a verbal report at the next ACMR meeting. It might be useful to consider having a one-day meeting during the week-end just prior to the ACMR to which we could invite Brenner and Anderson, and which could prepare a written submission to the ACMR, appropriate for an annex to the ACMR report. I would suggest that, apart from yourself, the sub-committee should consist of de Duve, Scrimshaw, Nossal, Solov'ev, and Jacob (if he accepts membership).

.../...

Professor J. Lederberg  
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Mahler approached me the other day to express his regrets that he was unable to spend more time with you. He told me that he urged you to be as candid as possible in any observations you wish to make as a result of your visit here. I assured him that you understood the situation and would send a report in due course.

Perhaps before I arrange for the Director-General's invitation to have you serve an additional term on the ACMR you would let me know whether you would be willing to take it on for one or two years. As you know, Mahler would be willing and happy to extend the two-year invitation.

I have received several indications from staff members that the visit of Marguerite and yourself was most stimulating to them.

Lenna and I send our best wishes for the New Year to both of you and your family.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Martin Kaplan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Martin Kaplan